E UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

OKADA et al.

Atty. Ref.: 723-1221

Serial No. 09/994,943

Group:

Filed: November 28, 2001

Examiner:

For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND DISPLAY

CONTROL METHOD

March 27, 2002

**Assistant Commissioner for Patents** Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the related application listed on the attached PTO-1449. Examiner's attention is directed to co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/994,914, filed November 27, 2001, (copy attached) which names the same inventors, is directed to related technical subject matter and includes a substantially common disclosure with the subject disclosure. It is believed that a clear line of demarcation exists between the claimed subject matter of these applications. The identification of this U.S. Patent Application is not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to that application now or upon issuance of the present application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited application and the art cited therein during examination.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

The filing of an Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made [37 C.F.R. '1.97(g)], an admission that the information cited is prior art, or is considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists. Further, the filing of an Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner [Commissioner's Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 12-25 at 25].

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any <u>deficiency</u>, or credit any overpayment, in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Account No. 14-1140.

Respectfully submitted,

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